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Claiborne Pell

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June 3, 1981

Mr. William G. Bowen
Princeton University
Princeton, New Jersey 08544
President's Room

Dear Bill:

Thank you very much for your recent letter in regard to the proposed cuts in the budget of the National Science Foundation.

In my opinion, the Science Foundation cuts recommended by the Reagan Administration are too severe and not in the long run interest of science or the nation. I share your alarm about the proposed elimination of the Fellowship Program and the support for university research facilities. These are particularly worthy areas and should not be singled out for such drastic treatment.

As you may know, I recently voted against passage of the Senate budget resolution which set forth cuts even more severe than those advocated by President Reagan. One of the reasons I did this was my deep concern that many of the proposed reduction, including those your mention, were clearly not in the best interest of our country. Even though my position did not prevail, I shall continue my work to secure adequate funding for these areas which I consider a vital national resource.

Thank you again for writing and sharing your concerns with me. I will be sure to keep your views and those of your colleagues in mind as the Congress continues consideration of the budget.

With warm regards,

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell

AC/jb